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For Application No. 10/629,192

1. Response to Restriction Requirement

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.8. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.8 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Koman et al.

Title: FIXATION DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TREATING
CONTRACTURES AND OTHER ORTHOPEDIC INDICATIONS

Application No.: 10/629,192 Filed: July 29, 2003

Examiner: Hill, Genevieve A. L. Group Art Unit: 3738

Atty. Docket No.: 24179785.010026 US

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

VIA FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION (571) 273-8300
DATE OF DEPOSIT: 4/14/2006
I, Scarlett Pereira, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited via facsimile transmission to (571) 273-8300 on the date shown above with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.
<i>Scarlett Pereira</i> Scarlett Pereira

Dear Sir:

This communication is in response to the Examiner's Office Action of March 17, 2006 with a period of response through April 17, 2006.

In response to this requirement for restriction, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, the invention of claims 1-10 (Group I). Applicants fully intend to avail themselves to the protections of 35 U.S.C. § 121 for any subsequently filed divisional or continuation applications that claim subject matter substantially similar to claims 11-15 and/or 16-19.

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this response or the Application in general, Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' attorney at the below-listed telephone number. Although Applicant does not believe any fees are due with the filing of this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to withdraw any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0480, Attorney Docket Number 24179785.010026 JS.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 24179785.010026US

Respectfully submitted,



Richard V. Wells
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14 APRIL 2006
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